

CHAPTER 2.9.5.

VARROOSIS OF HONEY BEES

Article 2.9.5.1.

Standards for diagnostic tests are described in the *Manual*.

Article 2.9.5.2.

Country or zone with an official control programme for varroosis

To be considered as a country or zone with an official control programme for varroosis, a country or zone should fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) the *Veterinary Administration* has current knowledge of, and authority over, all beehives existing in the country or zone;
- 2) the control programme complies with the general provisions of Appendix 3.4.2., and is supervised by the *Veterinary Administration*;
- 3) varroosis is notifiable in the whole country, and any clinical cases suggestive of varroosis are subjected to field and laboratory investigations;
- 4) each hive in the country or zone should be subjected to a diagnostic test for varroosis at least every year; the sampling method used should be sufficient to provide at least 99% confidence of detecting the disease if it is present at a prevalence rate exceeding 5% in the bee population of each hive;
- 5) all infected hives should be either treated with appropriate acaricides or destroyed.

Article 2.9.5.3.

Country or zone free from varroosis

To be considered free from varroosis, a country or zone should fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) an official control programme for varroosis has existed in the country or zone for at least 3 years, and no *outbreak* of varroosis has been reported during this period;
- 2) then, annual surveys, with negative results, are carried out on a representative sample of all the beehives in the country or zone to provide a confidence level of at least 99% of detecting varroosis if at least 0.2% of the hives were infected at a within hive prevalence rate of at least 5%;
- 3) the importation of the *commodities* listed in Article 2.9.5.4. into the country or zone is carried out in conformity with the import conditions contained in the relevant Articles of the present Chapter.

Appendix XVII (contd)

Article 2.9.5.4.

Veterinary Administrations of countries shall consider whether there is a risk with regard to varroosis in accepting importation or transit through their territory, from other countries, of bees (queen honey bees, worker bees and drones).

Other *commodities* (honey bee semen, honey bee eggs, extracted honey, or royal jelly) should be considered as not having the potential to spread varroosis when they are the subject of *international trade*.

Article 2.9.5.5.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for queen honey bees, accompanying bees (worker bees) and drones with or without associated brood combs

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the bees:

- 1) come from a country or zone free from varroosis; or
- 2) come from:
 - a) a country or zone with an official control programme for varroosis;
 - b) hives which were subjected to sampling for varroosis in accordance with point 4 of Article 2.9.5.2. on two occasions with negative results, the first sample being collected at least 4 months and no more than 12 months, and the second sample no more than 7 days, prior to shipment.

Article 2.9.5.6.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for used equipment associated with beekeeping

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the equipment come from:

- 1) a country or zone free from varroosis; or
- 2) a country or zone with an official control programme for varroosis, and:
 - a) contains no live honey bees or bee brood;
 - b) has been held away from contact with live honey bees for more than 7 days prior to shipment.

Article 2.9.5.7.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for honey-bee collected pollen, comb honey and propolis

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products come from:

- 1) a country or zone free from varroosis; or
- 2) a country or zone with an official control programme for varroosis, and have been held away from contact with live honey bees for more than 7 days prior to shipment.